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The following information on environmental problems in the German Democratic Republic has been obtained by the Secretariat.

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Summary^{1/}

1. The German Democratic Republic is a Socialist state with a highly developed industry and an intensive agriculture which shows a relatively high population density.

For the GDR, which in relation to its population has a limited amount of arable land and whose water resources are highly strained, the meaningful and rational use of the natural resources is of especially great national economic importance.

The following environmental problems are especially linked with the rapid development of industry, agriculture, the transport system and town planning in the GDR :

- the safeguarding of good environmental conditions for the people, such as drinking water in sufficient quantity and quality, the establishment of recreation areas and protection against noise;
- keeping the biosphere free from substances which pollute the soil, water and air;
- the arrangement, care and protection of the landscape in connexion with the use of the soil for industrial and other purposes as well as the introduction of industrial-type methods of production in agriculture.

The problems of protecting environment are concentrated especially in the industrial concentration areas of the Halle, Leipzig, Dresden, Karl Marx Stadt counties and in the GDR capital, Berlin.

2. In the German Democratic Republic working and living conditions are being systematically improved and an environment worthy of the Socialist community of man is being shaped under the leadership of the working class and its Marxist-Leninist party, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, by the purposeful joint work of the state and economic organs, enterprises and establishments as well as the social organizations and the working people.

A number of basic legal provisions have been adopted in the GDR in the past twenty years and many measures for arranging and protecting the environment have been introduced and implemented.

^{1/} In accordance with the recommendations of the ECE Secretariat the report concentrates on selected important problems of the development of the environment, in which questions of the natural environment and the protection of the landscape are in the foreground.

Proceeding from the mission of the Constitution of the GDR, a law on the systematic arrangement of the Socialist natural environment was adopted in May 1970 which considers the natural environmental factors within their all-round system and, in further developing the already existing individual regulations, creates a uniform and comprehensive state order for the meaningful arrangement of the natural environment and the protection of nature.

Social developments in the GDR are determined by the basic aims of the Seventh Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, of organizing all sides and spheres of social life into a complete system, the developed social system of Socialism. The Socialist natural environment is to be developed systematically as an integral part of this social system. This corresponds to the perception that in the process of completing Socialism under the conditions of the scientific and technological revolution, with reference to the dynamic growth of the national economy and the degree of its interlacing as well as in view of the qualitative changes in the settlement structure, complex measures have become necessary for an effective improvement of environmental and living conditions.

State planning, management and development of the natural environment with the objective of obtaining the highest social benefit are based on the following principles :

- Complex planning and coordinated implementation of all factors influencing the environment,
- Socially effective multi-utilization of the landscape and its riches,
- Concentration of forces and means on the national economic and territorial focal points while maintaining a national economy-based sequence of measures,
- Most rational employment of the systematically available funds by using the most progressive findings of science and technology.

The arrangement of a highly effective structure of the national economy in the GDR is directly linked with the improvement of environmental conditions and the development of the working and living conditions of the citizens.

The implementation of the principle of the most rational concentration of the productive forces with the optimum distribution of the centres of production, science and social life require as an important part of the territorial structure a rational network of settlements. In the development of settlement

areas, proceeding from the towns as their centres, important problems are being solved at the same time within the framework of the reconstruction and expansion of town areas, which lead to a reduction in air pollution, the effects of noise on the inhabitants and the encumbrance of the waters with waste water as well as to a more rational use of space.

The advantages of industrial concentration for obtaining the highest social effectiveness are also being utilized in the GDR in further developments and the organization of these concentration areas is being perfected. The step-by-step overcoming of disproportions and the disadvantages of high agglomerations which arose especially out of the planless and spontaneous development of industry and the settlement areas in capitalist Germany is linked with this process.

Research and development work is being more intensively directed at the main tasks of the Socialist preservation of the natural environment and the research potential is being structured accordingly.

Public relations work in the GDR was visibly activated by the broad public discussion on the draft of the Environment Preservation Law and by the subsequent promulgation of the law. In accordance with the right to take part in decision-making and organizing as stipulated in the Constitution of the GDR the citizens are directly involved in planning, managing and implementing the Socialist preservation of the environment.

State and social activity in the education and training of the citizens in the interest of the protection of the environment is being further developed and the full incorporation of environmental problems in the integrated educational system of the GDR is guaranteed.

The arrangement of the natural environment is being included in the economic system of Socialism in a complex way. By means of such economic regulations as financial and price policy measures, a purposeful state promotion of environmental development is taking place in the GDR.

3. The German Democratic Republic is ready to take part in the solution of environmental problems on the basis of complete equality. In this, it proceeds from the view that the maintenance of the purity of the water and the air and the protection of the landscape have become international problems which can only be solved in joint and equal work of all states on complex measures dovetailing with each other.

International experience gained up to now, also including that concerning the efforts to keep the North Sea clean, show that environmental problems on a regional and international level can be solved only by agreements binding in international law. The effectiveness of measures adopted by individual countries for the protection of the environment would be considerably increased by multilateral agreements.

The Government of the GDR was guided by this idea when, in the Statement to the 24th Session of the UN General Assembly (Document A/7780), it declared its readiness to take part in the world-wide United Nations conference on environmental questions planned for 1972.

With the Environment Preservation Law passed in 1970, the GDR has available a basic legal regulation for the development and protection of the natural environment. The GDR is also ready to impart its experience gained up to now in the solution of environmental problems to other countries. It is likewise interested in becoming acquainted with the experience of other countries in this field.

The memorandum of the Budapest Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty member countries of 21 and 22 June 1970 submits the proposal that, among others, the problem of the human environment be dealt with within the framework of the second point of the agenda proposed by these countries for the all-European security conference.

With this monograph the Government of the GDR reaffirms its readiness to cooperate in international state conferences in the field of the environment on a basis of equality and the necessity of its doing so, including participation in the ECE conference envisaged for 1971.

Among others, the GDR is interested in the solution of the following problems of all-European collaboration concerning environmental conditions :

- The maintenance of the cleanliness of the Baltic Sea on the basis of government agreements between the participating countries;
- The organized exchange of legal provisions and information on the development of environmental conditions and the methods of the complex discovery of the efficiency of measures for the arrangement and protection of the environment, including mathematical and economic models and the optimization of such processes;
- The coordination of investigations and the exchange of investigation results on the economic and hygienic effects of the contamination of the biosphere on people and their environment.

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

German Democratic Republic

Publisher : Commission for the Socialist Preservation of the Environment of the
Council of Ministers of the GDR 102 Berlin, Klosterstrasse 47

Preliminary remark :

The work is based on materials from the competent ministries and state
authorities and scientific institutions.

In accordance with the recommendations of the ECE Secretariat the report
concentrates on selected important problems of the development of the environment
in which questions of the natural environment and the protection of the land-
scape are in the foreground.

1. Introductory Survey of Important Problems Relating to the Environment

1.1. General Survey

The German Democratic Republic is a Socialist country with a highly
developed industry and an intensive agriculture in which the agricultural
production co-operatives and nationally-owned farms are increasingly applying
industry-type methods of production. Sixty-eight per cent of the gross product
of the national economy is provided by industry which is predominantly
nationally owned; ten per cent is provided by agriculture and forestry.

The GDR has a comparatively high population density. By far the greater
part of the total of 17.1 million inhabitants lives in towns. Twenty-two per
cent of the population are concentrated in eleven big cities of over 100,000
inhabitants. Up to now the process of territorial concentration in the GDR has
been expressed in the growing share of inhabitants in the medium-sized towns.

The climate of the GDR is moderate. The precipitation averages 600 milli-
metres per year.

Of all industrial countries the GDR has the most strained water balance
because of the very high degree of use of the waters. This places considerable
demands on water conservancy, and strict standards for rational utilization
and keeping the water pure are imposed.

Almost 60 per cent of the soil of the GDR is used for agricultural purpose.
The arable land available for supplying food amounting to 0.37 hectares per
inhabitant is relatively small. All the more important is the rational use of
the soil by the agricultural production co-operatives and other agricultural
enterprises, the protection of the arable land from unwarranted withdrawal
and the reclamation of mining areas. The reduction in the agriculturally used
areas with the growing share of built-up areas and mining land underlines this
national economic necessity.

Twenty-seven per cent of the entire territory of the GDR is covered with forests and barely two per cent is water. Along with the great economic importance of this natural wealth the forests and waters have to fulfil important health and recreation promoting functions.

The growth of industry and agriculture, the transportation system and the towns has led to an ever greater utilization of the landscape, the soil, the waters and the air. As a result of neglecting to protect the environment in imperialist Germany considerable arrears in waste water purification, keeping the atmosphere pure, the disposal of refuse and the reclamation of areas devastated by capitalist industry came into existence. Likewise, the overcoming of the consequences of the imperialist Second World War, especially the devastating war destruction, faced the GDR with complicated economic tasks which required the involvement of all forces for reconstruction.

On the basis of the Socialist property relations and central state planning and management in the GDR it was possible, within the framework of the construction of the national economy and despite the above-mentioned complicated development conditions, above all, in the establishment of new enterprises and the complex reconstruction of towns and enterprise installations, to carry out important measures for the maintenance of the purity of the biosphere and the improvement of environmental conditions for the citizens.

The strategic aim of shaping the developed social system of Socialism in the GDR posed at the Seventh Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany is linked with the mastery of the scientific and technological revolution in such a way that technical progress at the same time proves to be a social progress for all working people, and Socialist working and living conditions are increasingly developed

1.2. Branch Problems

1.2.1. Industry

In the last 20 years gross industrial production has increased to five times the beginning figure. Especially the chemical industry, metallurgy and the fuel industry among those branches which exert a strong influence on the natural environmental conditions reached a high rate of growth.

Of the investments, which increased by over seven times from 1950 to 1968, a considerable part was concentrated on the energy and fuel industry and the

chemical industry. New branches of industry came into existence such as metallurgy and shipbuilding, plastics chemistry, the fish processing industry and other branches, and new industrial centres and concentrations of industrial production developed.

In connexion with the development of industrial production a growing quantity of waste products^{1/} is to be noted.

Industrial enterprises empty more than five thousand million cubic metres of waste water into the waters every year. The rivers are primarily encumbered by waste water from the chemical industry, brown coal processing, the potash and cellulose industries. With the increasing employment of petroleum as a source of energy and raw material, special precautions are to be taken for the transport, transshipment and storage of oils and their by-products in order to prevent the pollution of the soil and waters by such materials. New problems of dealing with waste water are to be solved in connexion with the development of petrochemistry and the production of plant protectives and pesticides.

The encumbrance of the atmosphere by air polluting materials is primarily to be attributed to the emissions from the energy and fuel industry, the chemical industry, metallurgy and the building materials industry. The most important components according to extent and quantity are air pollution from dust and sulphur dioxide.

The growing amount of solid waste products such as industrial ashes, clinkers, waste water sludge, fine sand and other industrial residues as well as the dumps from mining bring about extensive occupation of the soil and encumber the landscape. Because of the still inadequate winning of auxiliary raw materials from waste products the economically important task arises of increasing the utilization of waste products in the interest of their harmless disposal.

The GDR leads the world in the extraction of brown coal (lignite). To obtain the brown coal necessary to cover the energy requirements to a great extent, in the past period about 3,500 hectares per year were required for mining. A large part of the mining areas could be reclaimed in past years at a high economic expenditure. Further mining areas from preceding decades still need to be recultivated and the systematic creation of healthy post-mining landscapes.

^{1/} Waste products in the production process and in towns and communities are remaining solid, liquid or gaseous materials which require disposal.

1.2.2. Agriculture and the Foodstuffs Industry

The transition to co-operative large-scale production took place with the Socialist reorganization of agriculture. The introduction of industrial-type methods of production in agriculture is linked with the rearrangement of the farmland and with changes in the structure of the landscape as well as with the construction of large stables and other farming complexes.

The protection of the landscape from soil erosion and the harming of its environmental functions requires the carrying out of complex measures for rearranging the farmland, which includes farmland forestry and makes possible a compensation for the necessary elimination of field shrubbery for the creation of larger areas.

Through the growing use of fertilizers and chemicals in combating weeds and pests in order to increase plant production, problems arise especially in protecting the environment from secondary effects of these materials, problems which must be examined in detail.

The concentrated quantities of waste water with a high organic encumbrance as well as of further waste products in the big agricultural and food production installations pose new tasks in ensuring the degree of purity of the ground water and water courses as well as environmental hygiene. The road was taken of incorporating these waste products in the agricultural cycle in such a way that damage to the environment is avoided and the rational utilization of fertilizers is ensured.

1.2.3. Other Spheres

Water Conservancy

Good progress could be made in the past period in the provision of drinking water for the towns and communities. Of the total population 80 per cent are centrally supplied with drinking water from public installations. Especially in the northern districts of the GDR which were greatly neglected under capitalism a considerable increase in the extent of connexions with central drinking water installations has been brought about.

Ensuring the supply of water for the national economy required the extensive construction of dams and water pipelines, for which considerable resources had to be employed. The construction of dams also fulfilled an important function in the protection against flood water.

In the two decades of the existence of the GDR, 66 dams and storage basins with a capacity of 456 million cubic metres were constructed. In these 20 years almost as much storage capacity was created in the GDR as in the 60 years of capitalist development before 1945.

The construction of extensive long-distance water supply installations in the central and southern counties of the GDR with a total pipeline length of nearly 2,600 kilometres made possible the transfer of large quantities of water to areas with a shortage in water and a high population and industrial density.

Sixty per cent of the people are connected with central sewerage systems. An increase in the tempo of constructing communal sewerage and sewerage purification plants is planned.

Disposal of Settlement Refuse

A large increase in the quantity of household and bulky refuse is to be noted in the towns and communities. In the towns, the volume of refuse has nearly doubled in the last ten years and will undergo a further doubling in the next ten years.

At present the simple depositing of settlement refuse is still the usual method of refuse disposal, from which effects on environmental hygiene and on the landscape appear.

Household refuse and the treated sewage of the towns and communities are a big reserve which can be transformed, through composting, into a means of soil improvement enriching the humus of areas used for agricultural and forestry purposes. At present about 80,000 cubic metres of compost per year are won in 14 plants in the GDR from waste products and sold to agricultural and horticultural enterprises.

Environmental Problems of Transport

The rapid development of the transport system, especially road traffic, is linked with noise and exhaust gas problems.

The noise problem is concentrated in the big cities and settlements in the vicinity of main transport facilities. In individual large cities a measuring programme has been carried out and noise maps established in order to judge the amount of noise caused by road traffic. At the same time a beginning was made in registering aircraft noise and investigating its medical significance on certain especially exposed groups of the population. These investigations are the basis for working out reorganization programmes.

The emissions (aerosols) from motor vehicles are also becoming increasingly important. The exhaust gas concentrates on the main roads of the larger cities, especially at street-crossings. Favourable technical solutions on the basis of general traffic plans^{1/} and technical measures for motor vehicles contribute to lessening traffic aerosols in accordance with the government stipulated penetration limits.

1.3. Territorial Problems

1.3.1. Industrial Concentration Areas

A total of 49.7 per cent of the population and 57.4 per cent of the GDR's gross industrial production are concentrated in the southern counties of Halle, Leipzig, Dresden and Karl Marx Stadt and in the GDR capital Berlin, which make up 24.9 per cent of the state territory. A particularly rapid development of the productive forces and all spheres of social life is taking place in the concentration areas of these counties.

The advantages of industrial concentration for obtaining the highest social effectiveness are also being utilized in the GDR in further developments and the organization of these concentration areas is being perfected. The step-by-step overcoming of disproportions and the disadvantages of high agglomerations which arose especially out of the planless and spontaneous development of industry and the settlement centres in capitalist Germany is linked with this process.

The already characterized environmental problems of the GDR are in general more sharply expressed in the industrial concentration areas. In the GDR numerous important measures for the systematic arrangement of the environment and for the elimination of sources of disturbance were carried out in the development of the concentration areas. To be emphasized are the restoration of many city districts by opening them up and by modern construction, a more expedient establishment of areas for industrial enterprises and the laying out of parks and gardens and nearby recreation areas. The improved provision of drinking water in the concentration centres, the erection of large water purification works in the Berlin area with the gradual elimination of sewage-irrigated fields, the mine dump reforestation near Leipzig and the expansion of open-cast mining holes into bathing lakes for the people, the planting of

1/ General traffic plans - Part of the prognostic work of the counties. They contain the main direction of the complex development of the traffic in a county, the main traffic network and the most important traffic installations.

mining dumps in Zwickau with shrubbery and the clearing up of big emission sources as at the power station in Berlin-Rummelsburg are impressive examples of this.

Important prerequisites for a directed and systematic development of the entire unified complex of production and the living conditions of society, their natural and man-made environment were created for the further development of the concentration areas by means of both legal foundations and the practice of territorial planning ^{1/} and the general construction planning of the counties ^{2/}.

1.3.2. Nature Reserves, Landscape Preservation Areas and Recreation Centres

The GDR has established 652 nature reserves. The relatively small areas are island-like representatives of the most important natural places and landscape units within their intensively utilized surroundings, in which long-term ecological investigations and permanent observations are possible.

The 390 landscape preservation areas established in the GDR which represent 17 per cent of the republic's territory, primarily serve recreational purposes. They include important areas for short-term recreation in the vicinity of concentration centres and towns and also the centres of long-term recreation (holidays).

Among the large-scale recreational regions in the GDR which cover landscape preservation areas and other suitable areas, are the Baltic Sea coast and the bay landscapes, the recreation areas with a wealth of woods and lakes in the Schwerin, Neubrandenburg, Postdam and Frankfurt-on-Oder counties and the recreation areas in the uplands.

In the GDR there is, as is also to be observed internationally in tourist traffic, a big demand for recreation facilities in areas which are rich in water.

1/ Territorial planning - Part of the system of national economic planning of the GDR to ensure proportionality in the territorial development of the national economy. Essential elements of territorial planning are the planning of the siting of the productive forces directed at a rational development of the counties and districts as well as the territorial co-ordination and balancing of the plans of the branches and spheres.

2/ General construction plan - Part of the prognostic activity of the counties. The main task of the general construction plan is the co-ordination of the development of the branches with that of the territory in relation to building measures. The general construction plan is determined by the requirements of the prognostic and long-term development of the economy and the working and living conditions of the people.

As the Baltic coast is at present greatly overburdened, the biggest reserve regions are especially in the wooded and hilly areas with many lakes. These are already opened up by more than 90 per cent of their capacities for camping and can be developed into recreation centres with fixed accommodation.

An ever more topical problem in the recreation areas is the air pollution and the noise from private motorcars and motorcycles and the increase in the number of motor boats on lakes and rivers. As a result of planning measures by the government authorities (establishment of parking places on the edge of recreation areas) and limiting the number of motorboats on the waters the annoyance of recreation seekers, caused by exhaust gas and noise is countered.

2. Measures for the Arrangement of the Environment

2.1. Legislation, Strategy and Planning

In the German Democratic Republic working and living conditions are being systematically improved and an environment worthy of the Socialist community of man is being shaped under the leadership of the working class and its Marxist-Leninist party, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, by the purposeful joint work of the state and economic organs, enterprises and establishments as well as the social organizations and the people.

The Constitution of the GDR declares the protection of nature, the rational use and protection of the soil, the maintenance of the purity of the waters and the air as well as the protection of the flora and fauna and the natural beauties of the homeland to be the duty of the state and society and, in addition, the affair of every citizen. The citizens' right to the maintenance of health and the organization of leisure time activity and recreation are set forth in the Constitution.

Proceeding from the constitutional mission, a law on the systematic arrangement of the Socialist natural environment in the GDR - Environment Preservation Law - was worked out with the broad co-operation of the people and their social organizations, the enterprises and scientific institutions and the state organs and adopted on 14 May 1970 by the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic.

The public discussion of the bill preceding its adoption, which had a great echo among all sections of the population, gave rise, with a basic approval of the concern of the law, to many suggestions and proposals for elaborating the

legal provisions and for the better solution of the problems of nature preservation with the co-operation of the people. On this basis important amendments and supplements could be undertaken which were included in the law adopted by the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic.

In connection with this the Council of Ministers of the GDR issued four implementation decrees on the Environment Preservation Law, on the preservation of nature, the opening up, care and development of the landscape for recreation, on the maintenance of the cleanliness of towns and communities and on noise abatement

The Environment Preservation Law, which registers the natural environmental factors in their connection as a system, is an expression of the continuity of the state of the landscape and for the rational utilization of the natural wealth. Thus, in 1954 the Nature Protection Law was adopted^{1/}, in 1963 followed the Water Law and in 1964 the Decree on the Protection of the Land Used for Agriculture and Forestry was put into force. Further decisions of the GDR Council of Ministers envisaged measures against the increasing air pollution.

Through the 1969 decree on increasing the responsibility of the councils of towns and communities for order, cleanliness and hygiene and the decision of the GDR Council of State of 16 April 1970 on the development of Socialist legal government policy the local state organs were given significant rights for the development of the people's living and working conditions^{2/}.

The decision of the Council of State of the GDR, the draft of which was likewise submitted for public discussion before being adopted, shows how in a modern Socialist industrial country the complicated problems of developing the territorial structure, the planning and management of economic and social development, the provision and care of the people in the countries, districts, towns and communities are solved in the interest of all the people.

The public discussions of the bill carried out with great expert knowledge of the subject and the decision of the Council of State on the development of Socialist local government policy correspond to a characteristic feature of Socialist democracy in the GDR, in which, in accordance with the principle "take part in planning, working and governing", the citizens and their

1/ Repealed in 1970 by the Environment Preservation Law and included in its provisions.

2/ See survey of legal provisions in the appendix.

social organizations make use of their constitutional rights and take an active part in elaborating and enforcing the laws of the Socialist state.

The Environment Preservation Law signifies, in further developing the already existing individual provisions, a complex regulation and a uniform state order for the systematic arrangement of the natural environment and the protection of nature.

The Socialist preservation of nature embraces a system of measures for preserving, improving and effectively utilizing the natural living and production foundation and for beautifying the homeland. This includes the arrangement, care and protection of the landscape, the rational utilization and protection of the soil, woods and waters, the maintenance of the purity of the air and the abating of noise as well as making waste products usable and their removal without their causing damage.

Social developments in the GDR are determined by the basic aims set by the Seventh Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, of organizing all sides and spheres of social life into a complete system, the developed social system of Socialism. The Socialist natural environment is to be systematically developed as an integral part of this social system. This corresponds to the perception that in the process of completing Socialism under the conditions of the scientific and technological revolution, with regard to the dynamic growth of the national economy and the degree of its interlacing as well as in view of the qualitative changes in the settlement structure complex measures have become necessary for an effective improvement of environmental and living conditions.

The arrangement of the natural environment is, like all other measures for the development of working and living conditions, a firm part of the state planning and management of the social process of reproduction, which has its basis in the Socialist ownership of the means of production.

This gives rise to the basic prerequisites for the Socialist social order for the systematic solution of the far-reaching problems of developing and protecting the environment.

The Socialist state implements, through all-state planning and management of the reproduction process, the interests of the working class and the class of co-operative farmers, the intelligentsia and other working strata linked with it in friendship.

In accordance with the principle of democratic centralism the central state

planning and management of the basic questions of the Socialist preservation of nature is organically linked with the responsible planning and management of the enterprises and institutions, the responsible regulation of social life in the territory by the local bodies of state power and the promotion of the initiative of the citizens for the joint implementation of the tasks of protecting the environment.

In the management and development of the Socialist preservation of nature with the aim of the highest social utility the following principles are the basis :

- Complex planning and co-ordinated implementation of all measures influencing environment;
- Socially effective multi-use of the landscape and its wealth;
- Concentration of the forces and means on the national economic and territorial focal points maintaining a priority of measures based on national economic needs;
- The most rational employment of the systematically available funds by the use of the most progressive findings of science and technology.

The central state planning and management of the basic questions of the Socialist preservation of the natural environment in its economic complexity is under the Council of Ministers of the GDR. It guarantees that its requirements are the subject of prognoses, long-range and national economic plans. Thus, on the central level as well as by the local state organs prognoses and long-term programmes for arranging the environment and its development are being worked out. These prognoses and programmes are important foundations for long-term planning.

Proceeding from the basic regulation for shaping the economic system of Socialism in the GDR in the 1971-1975 period as well as in accordance with the regulation for working out and implementing the 1971-1975 long-range plan, important measures for maintaining the purity of the biosphere, the development of water supplies, the removal and utilization of settlement refuse and other waste products, for guaranteeing the recreation of the people and other tasks promoting working and living conditions are bindingly included in the long-range plan.

Following the decision of the GDR Council of Ministers a commission for the Socialist preservation of the environment of the Council of Ministers of the GDR was formed in 1969, to which belong leading representatives of ministries and other government bodies, scientific institutions and social organizations. The

Commission headed by a deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers has the task of working out the basic problems of the complex development of the natural environment, co-ordinating economically decisive measures and ensuring effective public relations work.

The local people's representatives and their organs are responsible for the complex arrangement of the natural environment in their territory. They plan the tasks for preserving the environment in the sphere of their responsibility and co-ordinate all measures influencing the environment in their sphere with the aim of obtaining the highest territorial effectiveness. In the concentration areas and centres of structural policy development, measures for improving environmental conditions are to be implemented with priority.

In carrying out complex environment preserving tasks in the territory commissions for the Socialist preservation of the environment of the county councils are being established. On their level they have a position similar to that of the commission of the Council of Ministers of the GDR.

The implementation of the Socialist preservation of the environment makes high demands on the enterprises, industrial combines and establishments which influence the environment. In accordance with the Environment Preservation Law they and their superordinate bodies have to guarantee the meaningful and rational utilization of the landscape and its wealth and to exclude to the greatest possible extent any harm to the natural environment resulting from their activities. For this the enterprises are obligated, in accordance with the previously given permissible limits, systematically to erect installations to preserve the purity of the water and air and to operate them in an orderly fashion and implement measures to reduce noise and remove and utilize waste products within the framework of their plans.

In developing processes, products and installations the national economic principle is valid that for the rational solution of these problems the most complete possible utilization of the materials employed in production is to be obtained and it is to be ensured that unavoidable waste products can be removed without difficulty.

The establishment of a highly effective structure of the national economy is directly linked in the GDR with the improvement of environmental conditions and the development of the people's working and living conditions.

For this the following roads have been taken :

- Increased use of liquid and gaseous sources of energy and nuclear energy to an extent of structural policy significance with a decreasing share of solid fuel;
- Expansion of petro-chemistry, which is increasingly replacing brown coal processing;
- Within the framework of the shift in structure the closing down of obsolete production plants which contaminate the biosphere to a great extent;
- The erection of plants for purifying waste water, dust removal and the treatment of exhaust gases as well as the removal of waste products and measures for noise prevention in the reconstruction, expansion or new construction of enterprises;
- The replacement of steam locomotives in rail transport.

The implementation of the principle of the most rational concentration of the productive forces with the optimum distribution of the centres of production, science and social life require as an important part of the territorial structure a rational network of settlements. In the development of settlement areas, proceeding from the towns as their centres, important problems are being solved at the same time within the framework of the reconstruction and expansion of town areas which leads to a reduction in air pollution, the effects of noise on the inhabitants and the incumbrance of the waters with waste water as well as a more rational use of space.

An important basis for the arrangement of the built-up environment in the correct interrelation with the requirements of the natural environment are the general construction plans and general traffic plans of the countries. These long-term conceptions envisage complex measures which include the development of favourable environmental conditions.

Summarizing, it can be stated that the GDR's structure policy and the measures to be carried out in enforcing the Environment Preservation Law guarantee the step-by-step reduction in the pollution of the biosphere and a lasting improvement in the natural living and production foundations.

2.2.1. Use and Protection of Bodies of Water

The Water Law of 17 April 1963 in principle provides measures for protecting the waters, for regulating the use of water and the protection of drinking water. In addition, there are a number of legal provisions which regulate the legal demands in a specialized way. Thus, the decree of

19 February 1969 on the prevention and combating of oil damage provides for uniform preventive, protective and combat measures.

Since 1958 an internationally recognized form of organization for a large-area solution of all water conservation problems by the management of water according to large and part catchment areas of the waters has been established.

The Water Conservation Board is the central state body of the GDR Council of Ministers for planning and managing water conservation measures of the national economy. It is responsible for implementing a uniform and complex scientific, technological and economic development of water utilization and for the establishment of the required capacities for covering the national economy's water requirements.

The tasks of the state water supervision are carried out by the water utilization managements subordinate to the Water Conservation Board and set up according to the big catchment areas for the waters. The maintenance of the purity of the waters is controlled on the basis of uniform criteria and norms by means of a network of quality gauges. The water conservancy authorities have a modern system of transmitting information with which suddenly appearing water influences can be recorded most quickly and measures for eliminating difficulties speedily introduced. The co-operation of voluntary helpers of the water supervision for controlling the water users, especially on weekends and holidays, is a good aid to the state bodies.

The systematic restoration of the waters takes place on the basis of complex programmes for entire river areas. By exhausting all possibilities for improving the purification of waste water, by the introduction of water-economizing technologies and other things a worsening of the quality of water could thus be avoided despite the enormous increase of production in industry and the food economy and positive developments could be introduced in various river areas.

Agreements have been made with the GDR's Socialist neighbours, Czechoslovakia and Poland which countries, by means of joint measures, to improving the quality of the water in the frontier waters.

2.2.2. Maintenance of the Purity of the Air

The Environment Preservation Law of 14 May 1970 sets forth the basic requirements for maintaining the purity of the air. In addition there exists at present a special legal provision in which the hygienically permissible

maximum concentrations of materials which pollute the air (MIK values) are stipulated. For the further elaboration of legal provisions in the field of air purity maintenance an appropriate implementation decree on the Environment Preservation Law is being prepared.

The Ministry of Health is responsible for regulating the maximum permissible values for guaranteeing the maintenance of the purity of the air and for the controls necessary for this. The hygiene inspections of the counties and districts are charged with checking on air contamination. There are technical departments in the county hygiene institutes for atmospheric hygiene, which make measurements. The results of the measurements are taken into consideration in the planning of new installations and in reconstructions. The computational estimations of the effects from emission data are made by the Meteorological Service of the GDR.

Those operating installations which contaminate the air can be instructed by the local councils to improve the air hygiene situation.

The problem of motor vehicle exhaust gas has been given much attention in the GDR in the past years. There is a central testing station for motor vehicle exhaust gas by which all scientific investigations and measures are co-ordinated.

2.2.3. Reclamation of Mining Areas

Legal foundations are the Mining Law of 12 May 1969 and the Environment Preservation Law of 14 May 1970 which bindingly regulate the reclamation of areas used for mining purposes. Recultivation work is carried out in a concentrated form in the brown coal mining centres. A return of some 2,000 hectares (1 hectare = 2.47 acres) per year is counted on, some 40 per cent of which is used as agricultural and 60 per cent as forest land.

Various processes of reclamation and recultivation have been tested and applied, whereby the utilization of brown coal ashes and sewage sludge as well as waste water is in the foreground. In future, the main course will be working out principles for the development of post-mining landscapes.

The systematic use of the natural wealth permits and requires determining the subsequent use already at the beginning of the exploitation of the mineral resources and considering the planned subsequent use during the extraction process.

2.2.4. Disposal of Waste Products

The most important legal foundations in the GDR which require the removal and exploitation of waste products without damage are the decision of the Council of State of the GDR of 16 April 1970 on the development of Socialist local government policy and the Environment Preservation Law of 14 May 1970 including the implementation decree on maintaining the cleanliness of towns and communities. A further implementation decree which provides for the better utilization especially of industrial waste products as secondary raw materials is being prepared at present. Detailed legal provisions corresponding to local conditions on the disposal and utilization of waste products, above all, of settlement refuse, have been adopted by the people's representative bodies in the towns and communities and included into town or community regulations for guaranteeing order, cleanliness and hygiene.

The local state organs are preparing the establishment of a system of settlement refuse removal which includes the collection, transport, depositing, composting and burning of municipal refuse. In order to develop rational technological and organizational solutions for the disposal of town refuse various possibilities have been tested in a county of the GDR by the Institute of Municipal Economy in Dresden in its capacity as control institute. In this way foundations (coarse model) for a system of settlement refuse disposal could be established.

The GDR Council of Ministers adopted a programme on the development of new building materials which, among others, aims at the utilization of waste products. Further, a whole complex of measures for the intensified utilization of waste products as secondary raw materials has been established by the Council of Ministers.

For the co-ordination of scientific work in the individual fields of the disposal and utilization of waste products there is, in addition to the Institute of Municipal Economy, a centre for the economic use of ashes.

2.2.5. Development of Recreation Areas

As part of the development of the working and living conditions of the working people the recreation system has had a considerable upsurge since the founding of the GDR. The great achievements of the holiday service of the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions and the holiday organization by enterprises, schools and social organizations belong to the social accomplishments of the workers' and farmers' state.

Thus, the number of recreation stays organized by the FDGB, by other social organizations, by schools and the Travel Agency of the GDR as well as recreation in enterprise holiday homes, on camping sites and individual trips have increased from about 350.000 in 1949 to more than 9.6 million in 1970. More than every second GDR citizen enjoyed a recreation stay of a considerable length of time.

With the introduction of the legal five-day working week and the prolongation of the holiday every working person has at least 125 work-free days per year.

So as to make possible a meaningful use of this leisure time, the facilities for long-term recreation are being systematically expanded and diverse forms of week-end and nearby recreation are being developed, whereby sports, games, hikes and the promotion of intellectual and cultural life are included.

The decision of the Council of State of 16 April 1970 and the Environment Preservation Law of 14 May 1970 and the accompanying implementation regulations on the protection of nature and on the opening up, care and development of the landscape for recreation establish the principles for the further arrangement of recreation areas. Included in them are principles forbidding building on the banks of waters and in addition making possible a restoration of already built-up areas along the banks of waters.

In the areas under landscape protection planning and utilization are carried out in such a way that the recreational value of the areas is retained and increased; the county and district councils elaborate plans for the maintenance of the landscape.

Landscape protection areas and other suitable areas are increasingly being opened up and equipped for recreation purposes by the local state organs in close co-operation with enterprises and co-operatives, social organizations and with the support of the people.

An example of such co-operation is the development of the "Pöhl Dam" recreation area in Karl Marx Stadt county. It was placed under landscape protection already during construction. A large restaurant, camping places and bungalow settlements were systematically erected in the vicinity of the reservoir. The nine communities in the area form an association with common interests. The management of all recreation facilities is in the hands of the Pöhl Dam Nationally-Owned Recreation Enterprise.

Along with the nearby recreation areas and the regional recreational areas large recreation complexes of central importance are being established with the concentrated employment of manpower and resources. Thus, the expansion of Oberhof into an international recreational and winter sports centre is being carried out and further recreation centres are being developed on the Schaabe (Rügen Island), in Klink (Müritz Lake) and in Oberwiesenthal (Erzgebirge mountains).

To arrive at a new quality in the equipment of recreation areas the plans orient on only erecting recreational facilities from a minimum capacity of 400 beds. This is made possible by the union of recreation carriers, especially into uniform catering and service enterprises under the leadership of the most important carrier, the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions.

2.2.6. Nature Protection

The Council for Agricultural Production and the Foodstuffs Industry of the GDR is responsible for the central state planning and direction of nature protection. The people's representative bodies in the countries decide on the necessary supplements and changes in the system of reserves.

Maintenance measures co-ordinated with the scientific tasks are carried out in the nature reserve areas. Their scientific basis is worked out by the Institute of Land Research and Nature Protection in Halle in co-operation with university institutes and with naturalists of the German League of Culture.

It is thanks to the many years of state and social efforts for the protection of rare and valuable species of animals that among nearly all of them an increase in stock has been obtained.

One hundred and eight species of wild-growing plants are under nature protection in the GDR. A large number of voluntary nature protection helpers concern themselves with maintaining them and with the most exact possible determination of their distribution. By the establishment of zonal natural monuments many biotopes of protected plants are saved from destruction.

2.2.7. Noise Abatement

The tasks of the state and economic organs in whose spheres noise arises and the responsibility and authority to make checks of the organs of the state health service in this sphere are set forth in the Environment Preservation Law and its implementation regulation on noise abatement. The people's representative bodies

of the towns and communities have the right to declare parts of their territory, in which hospitals, health resorts and recreational establishments and other objects needing greater quiet are situated, as noise prohibition areas.

The binding maximum permissible noise level corresponds to international medical findings and also takes the health endangering significance of cracks into consideration.

To involve the broadest circles of the people the formation of noise abatement commissions is planned in the towns and communities. They are to be composed of citizens of all occupational groups which are especially interested in the solution of the noise problem and which support the local state organs by their voluntary activity.

2.3. Environment Research, Education and Training and Public Relations Work

2.3.1. Research and Development

In the field of research in the natural environment the following complexes are being worked on in the GDR :

- Utilization and protection of the waters

Research and development aim at improving technical processes and technological solutions for maintaining the purity of the waters on the basis of modern methods of analysis. At the same time the foundations for the optimum utilization of the surface and ground waters are being worked out.

- Maintaining the purity of the air

In this complex co-ordinated research work is being carried out, especially in the fields of dust removal, purification of exhaust gas, air hygiene, metereological aspects, the lessening of harmful motor vehicle exhaust gas, the reduction of damage from smoke in agriculture and forestry and for the establishment of a complete measuring and control system.

- Making solid industrial waste products useful and their disposal without damage

Scientific and technological work deals with the development of new methods for decreasing the amount of solid waste products in industrial production and with investigations on effective utilization possibilities of solid industrial waste products.

- Utilization and disposal of settlement refuse

Within the framework of this complex and on the basis of investigations on the development of the quantity, the composition and usability of settlement refuse work is being done on the improvement of existing disposal and utilization processes and special problems of refuse removal and refuse handling.

- Arrangement and care of the landscape and nature protection

Research ranges from the establishment of the bases for landscape maintenance and the maintenance of protected objects and areas, the new arrangement of land for increasing agricultural and forest production and the observance of general nature preservation interests, to the recultivation of areas and investigation on ecological systems.

- Noise abatement

Within this complex investigations on the reduction of traffic noise, industrial noise and noise in the countryside, especially in recreation areas as well as investigations to obtain scientifically-based maximum permissible noise levels are being carried out for the purpose of preventing injury to health.

In the process of organizing science in the field of the Socialist preservation of the environment a structuring of the research potential is being undertaken to obtain pioneering and top performances. For this purpose a system of control institutes is being built up as main contractors of research subjects.

2.3.2. Education and Training and Public Relations Work

Along with the existing training in specialized technical disciplines which are closely connected with the arrangement of the environment as, for example, water conservancy, forestry, biology, the training and further training in the field of the environment pursues the firm inclusion of basic environmental problems in the training in a number of scientific disciplines at colleges and technical training colleges of the GDR as well as in the post-graduate training of college and technical training college cadres. Moreover, there is the training of specialists, for example, as landscape architects, with college graduation.

The inclusion of environmental problems in the integrated educational system of the GDR further takes place by dealing with these questions more intensively in the general schools and vocational schools.

Public relations work in the GDR on problems of environment protection was visibly activated by the public discussion of the Environment Preservation Law and by the promulgation of the law. In accordance with the right to take part in decision-making and organizing as stipulated in the Constitution of the GDR citizens are directly involved in the planning, management and implementation of the Socialist preservation of the environment. Voluntary nature protection helpers and nature protection officials, helpers in the supervision of the waters and others actively co-operate in the solution of environmental problems.

Within the framework of the "Help beautify our towns and communities" emulation and in co-operation of the local state organs, enterprises and the people, varied measures for improving working and living conditions are being implemented.

Members and technical bodies of social organizations such as the German League of Culture, the Chamber of Technology, the Federation of German Architects of the GDR and scientific societies (Fuel Society, Chemical Society, Biology Society in the GDR and others) devote themselves to environmental questions.

The tasks of environment preservation are popularized by means of exhibitions such as the agricultural exhibition in Markkleeberg and the International Horticultural Exhibition in Erfurt, popular science publications especially by the Urania, contributions in the press, on radio and television. From 1971 a "Socialist Environment Preservation Week" will be held in the GDR annually, following the nature protection and forest protection weeks in previous years.

2.4. Financial and Price Policy and National Economic Investigations

2.4.1. Financial and Price Policy Measures

The arrangement and protection of the environment are included by the state in the economic system of Socialism. To this end, basic stipulations were made by the Environment Preservation Law of 14 May 1970 and in other legal provisions.

In the following a few important economic principles and measures in this field will be dealt with.

Proceeding from the principle that the enterprises bear the responsibility for the rational and harmless use of the natural resources needed by them

they have systematically to realize the investments for maintaining the purity of the biosphere and arranging the natural environment within the framework of the principle to earn their own means for extended reproduction. The expenditures for purifying waste water, maintaining the purity of the air, the harmless disposal of solid waste products and the reclamation of land used for mining represent socially necessary costs of production and as such can be planned and calculated.

The GDR government has carried out a number of financial and price policy measures for developing water supplies and the treatment of waste water and for the promotion of environment protection.

The state has made available considerable price supports for the water supplying and waste water treating enterprises so that the prices for providing drinking water and the removal of waste water which to a large extent stem from the pre-war period are not increased for the people despite the considerably changed cost situation. These resources are used to cover current expenditures in the towns and communities. In addition, the state budget finances dam structures and other storage facilities to the full extent.

The uniform state budget of the GDR guarantees that the towns and communities receive the necessary budget allocations for carrying out the tasks of the national economic plan. It is thus possible to employ more financial means for the beautification of the residential districts, the establishment of parks and gardens, the development of nearby-recreation areas and for other measures to improve the people's working and living conditions. In addition, the local state organs may conclude contracts with enterprises in their territory for the joint financing and implementing of such projects. The state budget grants subsidies for town refuse removal and the construction of a system of municipal refuse utilization plants is also financially supported by the state.

Corresponding to the general principles of the state price policy industrial prices must cover the socially necessary costs of production including expenditures for extended reproduction. These price policy principles are applied analogously to the provision of drinking water and water for industrial use, the diversion of waste water in public sewerage installations and the removal and utilization of settlement refuse. There are special regulations in the interest of the working people for price determination and financing according to which price increase are not to affect the population.

To economically stimulate the elimination of waste products by making them usable and by winning secondary raw materials price fixing by the competent state bodies aims at prices for secondary raw materials taking into consideration their quality in relation to the prices of comparable primary raw materials or substitutable materials and taking into consideration social expenditures for the disposal of the waste products. The fact is thereby taken account of that, as in the case of compost produced from settlement refuse and sewage sludge, the costs of the harmless disposal of the waste products are to be borne by the producer or by the main products of the production process. Thanks to the possibility of agreeing on prices in contracts between producer and user of waste products and the buyer of the products won from waste products the joint economic interests can be brought into harmony and a mutual benefit arrived at.

The erection of installations by the enterprises for maintaining the purity of the biosphere is promoted by the state, for instance, in such a way that plants for the purification of waste water and the treatment of dust and exhaust gas are excluded from the transmittal of a production fund payment^{1/}. Here the fact is taken into account that the maintenance of the purity of the waters and the air as an enterprise task represents at the same time an important social-hygiene contribution to society.

In accordance with the Environment Preservation Law and other regulations the town and community councils have the right to demand compensation for surplus expenditures caused by air and water pollution and to impose sanctions for the non-implementation of the bindingly agreed upon measures for maintaining the purity of the air and water.

In addition, following a decision by the GDR Council of Ministers, an economic experiment for the rational utilization of the available water and the maintenance of the purity of the water and the air is being carried out in Halle county. Water users, with the exception of agricultural enterprises, are to pay compensation for taking ground and surface water to cover the expenditures made by the water authorities. Dust and exhaust gas as well as waste water fees are to be paid to the competent state bodies by enterprises which do not observe the limits for the highest permissible emissions or for draining off waste water into bodies of waters.

^{1/} Uniform payments to the state by the nationally-owned enterprises, calculated on the basis of the fixed assets and the material circulating capital.

It is planned, in evaluating the experiment, to apply effective economic regulations throughout the country. Those enterprises which, contrary to the maximum permissible values, do not systematically enforce the measures established will suffer financial consequences. In this way, better agreement between social requirements and the enterprises' economic interests will be obtained.

The GDR Council of Ministers has issued economic regulations by means of the decree of 15 June 1967 on land use fees which are directed at the most economical employment of agricultural and forest land for structures of all kinds, mining and other uses. To the extent that enterprises and establishments have to pay relatively high land use fees to the state, depending on the quality of the soil, for the permanent or temporary withdrawal of arable and forest land, they are economically interested in restricting the use of land to the absolutely necessary amount and, with mining measures, to hasten the return of the land to agricultural and forestry use. It must be emphasized that the state fund formed out of these fees is earmarked for the financial promotion in raising soil fertility, the expansion of arable land and the improvement in its cultivation.

In summing up, it should be stated with regard to the financial and price policy measures that the state has created adequate economic regulations and is constantly further developing them. They exert an influence on the improvement of the environmental conditions and the rational utilization of the natural resources and in this way contribute to promoting the development of Socialist society.

2.4.2. Investigations on the Social Benefits of the Arrangement of Environment

The standard for state decisions on the arrangement and protection of the environment is the benefit for society as a whole. The implementation of this principle is guaranteed by the system of state planning and management. In this connexion the proof of social benefit gains in significance. Whereas from the point of view of enterprise profitability, measures for the preservation of the purity of the biosphere and the disposal of waste products normally turn out to be unfavourable and to raise costs alone, national economic investigations show that the social benefits can more than cover costs by reducing damage of all kinds, by avoiding surplus expenditures and by the utilization of waste products. Thus, prognostic calculations and assessments have shown that the

necessary additional expenditures for the purification of water could not only be compensated for by an improvement in the quality of river water by possible reductions in water purification costs but, over and above that, savings in the national economy would be obtained. The first complex prognostic investigations on water and air purity maintenance and on the disposal of waste products indicate the possibility that the means to be spent for this purpose are paid back to society in less than ten years through the prevention of damage to structures and installations, the avoidance of production losses and surplus expenditures and by making waste products usable.

Calculations on the exact determination of the efficiency of the national economy are extremely complicated, for reliable, comprehensive data on damage for the most part are lacking and the quantitative evaluation of the effects of general social advantages, as, for example, the recreational effect of the landscape or the waters, is still an unsolved problem.

Both the methods of determining national economic benefits and the practical investigations therefore require further perfection.

3. Proposals for International Co-operation

The German Democratic Republic is ready to take part in the solution of environmental problems on the basis of complete equality. In this, it proceeds from the view that the maintenance of the purity of the water and the air and the protection of the landscape have become an international problem which can only be solved in joint and equal work of all states on complex measures dovetailing with each other.

International experience gathered up to now, also including that concerning the efforts to keep the North Sea clean, show that environmental problems on a regional and international level can be solved only by agreements binding in international law. The effectiveness of measures adopted by individual countries for the protection of the environment would be considerably increased by multilateral agreements.

The Government of the GDR was guided by this idea when, in the Statement to the 24th session of the UN General Assembly (Document A/7780), it declared its readiness to take part in the world-wide UN Conference on Environmental Questions Planned for 1972.

With the Environment Preservation Law passed in 1970 the GDR has available a basic legal regulation for the development and protection of the natural

environment. The GDR is also ready to impart its experience gained up to now in the solution of environmental problems to other countries. It is likewise interested in becoming acquainted with the experience of other countries in this field.

The memorandum of the Budapest Conference of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty member countries of 21 and 22 June 1970 submits the proposal that, among others, the problem of the human environment be dealt with within the framework of the second point of the agenda proposed by these countries for the all-European security conference.

With this monograph the Government of the GDR reaffirms its readiness to co-operate in international state conferences dealing with the environment on a basis of equality and the necessity of its doing so, including participation in the ECE Conference envisaged for 1971.

Among others, the GDR is interested in the solution of the following problems of all-European collaboration concerning environmental conditions :

- The maintenance of the cleanliness of the Baltic Sea on the basis of government agreements between the participating countries;
- The organized exchange of legal provisions and information on the development of environmental conditions and the methods of the complex discovery of the efficiency of measures for the arrangement and protection of the environment, including mathematical and economic models and the optimization of such processes;
- The co-ordination of investigations and the exchange of investigation results on the economic and hygienic effects of the contamination of the biosphere on people and their environment.

Appendix

Survey of Legal Provisions

1. Constitution of the German Democratic Republic of 6 April 1968 (Law Gazette, Part I, page 199).
2. Law on the Systematic Arrangement of the Socialist Natural Environment in the GDR - Environment Preservation Law of 14 May 1970 - (Law Gazette, Part I, page 67).
Implementation Decree to the Environment Preservation Law :
 - First Implementation Decree of 14.5.1970 on the Protection and Care of the Flora and Fauna and Scenic Beauties (Nature Protection Decree) (Law Gazette, Part II, page 331).
 - Second Implementation Decree of 14.5.1970 on the Opening Up, Care and Development of the Landscape for Recreation (Law Gazette, Part II, page 336).
 - Third Implementation Decree of 14.5.1970 on Maintaining the Cleanliness of Towns and Communities and the Utilization of Settlement Refuse (Law Gazette, Part II, page 339).
 - Fourth Implementation Decree of 14.5.1970 on Noise Abatement (Law Gazette, Part II, page 343).
3. Law of 17 April 1963 on the Protection, Utilization and Maintenance of the Waters and Protection Against Flood Dangers - Water Law - (Law Gazette, Part I, page 77).
 - First Implementation Decree of 17.4.1963 to the Law on the Protection, Utilization and Maintenance of the Waters and Protection Against Flood Dangers - Water Law - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 281).
4. Mining Law of the German Democratic Republic of 12 May 1969 (Law Gazette, Part I, page 29).
5. Law of 28 March 1962 on the Use of Atomic Energy in the GDR - Atomic Energy Law - (Law Gazette, Part I, page 47; Amendment to the Law on the Use of Atomic Energy in the GDR - Atomic Energy Law - of 1.9.1966, Law Gazette, Part I, page 75).
6. Law of 25 November 1953 on the Protection of Cultivated and Useful Plants (Law Gazette, page 1179; numerous enforcement regulations were decreed on the basis of this law).
7. Law of 6 September 1950 on the Trade in Poisons (Poison Law) (Law Gazette, page 977).
8. Decision of the Council of State of the GDR of 16 April 1970 "The further Shaping of the System of the Planning and Management of Economic and Social Development, Supplies and Care for the Population in the Counties, Districts, Towns and Communities" - for the Development of Socialist Local Government Policy - (Law Gazette, Part I, page 39).

9. Basic Regulation for Shaping the Economic System of Socialism in the GDR in the Period from 1971 to 1975 - Draft -
(confirmed by the Council of Ministers of the GDR as the basis for working out the draft of the 1971-1975 long-range plan and the draft of the 1971 annual national economic plan on 15.4.1970).

Legal Provisions for Implementing the Tasks Contained in the Basic Regulation for the Shaping of the Economic System of Socialism in the GDR in the Period from 1971 to 1975 - Draft -
(confirmed by the Council of Ministers of the GDR as the basis for working out the draft of the 1971-1975 long-range plan and the draft of the 1971 annual national economic plan on 29.4.1970, published in Die Wirtschaft, supplements to Nos. 18-20/1970).

10. Decision of 26 October 1967 on the Principles for Preparing and Carrying Out Investments - Extract - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 813).

11. Decree of 1 March 1968 on the Principles for Planning the Distribution of Investment (Law Gazette, Part II, page 263).

12. Decree of 19 February 1969 on Increasing the Responsibility of the Town and Community Councils for Order, Cleanliness and Hygiene in Their Territory (Law Gazette, Part II, page 149).

13. Decree of 3 August 1967 on Health Resorts, Recreation Localities and Natural Remedies - Health Resort Decree - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 653).

14. Decree of 17 December 1964 on the Protection of Agricultural and Forest Land and to Safeguard the Socialist Use of the Soil - Soil Use Decree - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 233).

15. Decree of 15 June 1967 on the Introduction of a Soil Use Fee for the Protection of Agricultural and Forest Land - Decree on Soil Use Fee - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 487).

16. Decree of 26 November 1969 on Protection Against the Harmful Effects of Ionizing Radiation - Radiation Protection Decree - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 627).
- First Implementation Regulation of 26.11.1969 on the Radiation Protection Decree (Law Gazette, Part II, page 635).

17. Decree of 23 August 1951 on the Hygienic Supervision of the Central Water Supply Installations (Law Gazette, page 794)
- First Implementation Regulation of 23.8.1951 on the Decree on the Hygienic Supervision of the Central Water Supply Installations (Law Gazette, page 795).

18. Decree of 23 August 1951 on the Hygienic Supervision of Wells (Law Gazette, page 795).

19. Decree of 23 July 1953 on the Hygienic Supervision of Water and Waste Water (Law Gazette, page 913).

20. Decree of 19 February 1969 on the Prevention and Control of Oil Damage (Law Gazette, Part II, page 145).

21. Decree of 7 January 1954 on the Registration, Delivery and Reconditioning of Engine and Industrial Old Oil (Law Gazette, page 41).
22. Regulation No. 2 of 2 October 1958 on Legal and Technical Provisions in Building - German Building Regulation - (Law Gazette, special issue No. 287).
23. Regulation of 16 March 1967 on the Registration, Collection and Reconditioning of Metallic Secondary Raw Materials for the Gaining of Metal and Metallurgically Employable Industrial Remains - Secondary Raw Material Regulation - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 230).
24. Regulation of 11 March 1969 on the Protection and Maintenance of the Cleanliness of the Forests (Law Gazette, Part II, page 203).
25. Regulation of 8 October 1965 on the Management of Forests which Are of Great Importance for the Recreation of the Working People (Law Gazette, Part II, page 773).
26. Regulation of 10 April 1970 on the Reclamation of Land Used for Mining - Reclamation Regulation - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 279).
27. Regulation of 2 April 1968 on Guaranteeing Public Security and the Protection of the National Economy at Mine Dumps and Residual Pits (Law Gazette, Part II, page 225).
28. Regulation of 29 June 1967 on the Preparation and Carrying Out of Amelioration Work - Amelioration Regulation - Extract - (Law Gazette, Part II, page 411).
29. Regulation of 22 May 1969 on the Preparation, Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Closing Down of Industrial Sedimentation Plants (Law Gazette, Part II, page 297).
30. Regulation of 19 February 1969 on the Application of the Principles for Economic Regulations for Maintaining the Purity of the Waters and Air and for the Rational Utilization of the Ground and Surface Water in the Further Elaboration of the 1971-1975 Long-range Plan (Law Gazette, Part III, page 17).
31. Price Regulation No. 3059 of 30 September 1964 on the Supply of Drinking Water and Water for Industrial Use and the Drainage of Waste Water (Law Gazette, Special Issue No. P 3059).
32. Regulation of 28 June 1968 on the Limitation and Ascertainment of Air Pollution (Law Gazette, Part II, page 640).
33. TGL 10 687 "Sound Control".
34. TGL 39 - 852 "Motor Vehicles"
Sheet 10 : External Noise from Motor Vehicles - Measuring Technique and Maximum Permissible Values
Sheet 12 : External Noise from Trailer Vehicles for Motor Vehicles.

